May 18, 2005

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Kevin Martin, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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Dear Commissioners:

I recommend that all actions in the case of KALW FM 91.7, and its owner, the San Francisco Unified School District (MB Docket No. 04-191) be dropped for the reasons that follow:

First, the petitioner is a defunct organization that is no longer active in its challenge to the station, so it is questionable that support for the complaint continues to exist if there is no active petitioner, and no successor with demonstrated standing to represent the alleged charges. Second, the complaint filing occurred in 1997 – EIGHT years ago. Since then, KALW has undergone several significant management changes and the San Francisco Unified School District, which owns the station, has taken active steps in correcting the situation surrounding the complaint. Third, even when originally submitted, the FCC judged charges against KALW and its owner to be flimsy and poorly-supported, in addition to being improperly submitted.

Thus now, in 2005, what case remains? I can see none.

In fact, in contrast to the claims made against the station, its most recent managerial change has made KALW more responsive than ever to its community of listeners. For example, I know of no other station where the manager hosts a live, on-air public meeting to take comments, complaints and suggestions from the community. Even to a mere listener, it is clear that management and procedural changes have improved enormously since the time of the original complaint. Further action against the station or owner will imperil the financial stability and responsive capacity of this very important public resource.

KALW – aside from its historic place in American radio broadcasting or its community-owned status – deserves to continue in its present form and under its own auspices because of the unique role it plays in the radio venue in the San Francisco Bay Area. For discerning listeners, KALW is the only Bay Area station that provides truly balanced and diverse perspectives on issues of local relevance. In contrast, KQED has become a mega-station providing almost exclusively a nationally programmed format from NPR and PRI; while KPFA covers local issues largely from extreme perspectives.

As a very active listener and member of KALW, I would be happy to provide numerous specific examples of the ways in which KALW serves its community uniquely and effectively, and remain available to do so as requested by the Commission or KALW.

However, to be brief, I join supporters of this important community-owned radio station in simply urging the FCC to drop the case against KALW, and I thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ťina McRee

KALW member since 2001

Richmond CA

Cc: Chief, Enforcement Bureau, Federal Communications Commission

Nicole Sawaya, Station Manager, KALW